## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 /078 W

-----041907Z 053012 /40

R 041440Z APR 77 FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9838

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 2469

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, ECRP, AR

SUBJECT: 1977 BALANCE OF PAYMENTS FOR ARGENTINA

REF: (A) BUENOS AIRES 1679, (B) BUENOS AIRES 0758

1. EMBASSY HAS OBTAINED ON A CONFIDENTIAL BASIS A COPY OF THE CENTRAL BANK'S BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PROJECTION FOR 1977. THE BREAKDOWN IN MILLIONS US \$ BY QUARTER AND FULL-YEAR IS THE FOLLOWING (FIGURES ROUNDED TO NEAREST INTEGER):

QUARTERS FULL-YEAR

I II III IV

CURRENT ACCOUNT -10 47 101 58 196

MERCHANDIS

BALANCE 33 161 158 142 494

(A) EXPORTS 973 1159 1159 1031 4322

(B) IMPORTS -940 -998 -1001 -889 -3828

NON-COMPENSATORY

CAPITAL MOVEMENTS 249 -8 -28 -165 48

INTERNATIONAL

PAYMENTS 239 40 73 -107 244

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RESERVE VARIATION -191 -58 -124 202 -171 COMPENSATORY
MOVEMENTS -48 18 51 -95 -73

2. COMMENT: THE ESTIMATES LOOK REASONABLE. IN RELATION TO 1976, THE MERCHANDISE ACCOUNT SHOWS A PROJECTED INCREASE IN EXPORTS OF ABOUT \$427 MILLION

(MOSTLY AGRICULTURE) AND IN IMPORTS OF \$778 MILLION, REFLECTNG THE EXPECTED UPTURN IN ARGENTINA'S ECONOMY. THE NON-COMPENSATORY CAPITAL ACCOUNT INDICATES A CONTINUED STRONG NET INFLOW OF CAPITAL DURING THE FIRST QUARTER, SUBSEQUENTLY BECOMING A NET OUTFLOW DURING THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR, NO DOUBT PARTIALLY AS A RESULTE OF THE REMOVAL OF RESTRICTIONS ON REPATRIATION OF CAPITAL. THE RESULT IS A BALANCE OF PAYMENTS SURPLUS AND AN INCREASE IN RESERVES OF MODEST PROPORTIONS IN KEEPING WITH THE CENTRAL BANK'S DESIRE TO LIMIT MONETARY EXPANSION TO ROUGHLY 100 PERCENT FOR THE YEAR.

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** Concepts: BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

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Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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